

**NORTON BOARD OF EDUCATION – 09-03**  
**Committee of the Whole – April 13, 2009**

President Farmer called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room.

Those present:

Mrs. Diane Farmer, President  
Mrs. Elisa Worthington, Vice President  
Mr. Jim Bennett, Member  
Mrs. Laura Leonti, Member  
Mrs. Cindy Webel, Member  
Mr. David Dunn, Superintendent  
Mrs. Stephanie Hagenbush, Treasurer

Angie Wagler began the meeting by discussing the district's technology needs. She passed out a replacement plan for the switches. It will be approximately a six-seven year cycle for the switches purchasing six per year and keeping the old ones as back-up.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Operations Committee – Ken Caldwell announced that in partnership with the Metro Parks we have secured an option to purchase land. The appraisal should be in this week and we contemplate it being at the minimum price agreed upon in the option. The district will have access to land to conduct the necessary tests and studies. We will also be meeting with Metro Parks to decide which areas of land would be most beneficial for our schools. The TPL (Trust for Public Land) will make the actual purchase and we will secure the land from them– they believe this will take place 2010-2011.

Dave Dunn, Stephanie Hagenbush and Ken Caldwell went to the buildings and made an announcement about the land –good response from staff.

We have received a letter from the state notifying the need to address a breakfast program because of the free and reduced count in the elementary schools; each school is now above the 20% mark that qualifies them. Judy Johnsen is checking on this program and our options. We are also looking at a POS (Point of Service) program for the lunchrooms.

Regarding the waterline at the Middle School, we will have a reverse auction with the city. The city will bid our portion as an alternate—if under \$25,000 we can go with the city, if higher than \$25,000 we do not have to accept and can bid ourselves or work with the company to separate closing the well.

- B. Policy Committee – Valerie Riedthaler reported that the committee met and discussed the implementation of a policy regarding competitions – the Board will pay for state competitions but not national competitions. Also the Physical Education requirement would be waived if the student participates in Athletics, Band and Cheerleading. The Board will have the First reading on this policy tonight and will adopt this policy at the Regular April Board meeting.

Valerie reported that April is Autism Awareness month. Kindergarten screening starts this week and runs for three days. Barberton Health Department cancelled the immunization clinic that was scheduled for the screenings.

- C. Community Engagement Committee will meet on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. The State of the Schools meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Gym.
- D. Finance Committee – Stephanie reported that we have \$697,000 in the Permanent Improvement Fund for the purchase of land. She is researching old fund balances on the financial statements and if there is a balance that is no longer necessary it will be moved to the appropriate fund for appropriation as allowed by law.
- E. Technology & Instruction –Angie Wagler reported that a team has met with Akron University regarding distance learning. The cost to implement this program would be approximately \$91,000. They are looking at the possibility of conducting professional development for the teachers and K-8 classes. Adult Education would also be offered to the community. They will check to see if we could tie in with Vocational Program.

The Technology Plan is almost complete and ready for submission. The Summer Professional Development program is being finalized. Possibly updating the GroupWise email. They are working on updating the school supply list and planning a meeting tentatively scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup> for elementary parents and will have pictures taken that day.

### **FIRST READING**

Graduation Requirement Addition – Policy # 5460

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**CW-9-10**

**Mrs. Leonti** moved that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent enter Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent' contract and personnel at 7:41 p.m.

**Mrs. Worthington** seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Bennett,Mrs.Farmer,Mrs.Leonti,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Worthington**  
**NAYS: None – Motion Carries – 5-0**

Mr. Dunn entered Executive Session at 7:42 p.m. and left at 8:02 p.m.

President Farmer called the meeting back to public session at 8:41 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**CW-9-11**

**Mr. Bennett** moved that the Board of Education adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:42 p.m.

**Mrs. Worthington** seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL: AYES: Mrs.Farmer,Mrs.Leonti,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Worthington,Mr.Bennett**  
**NAYS: None – Motion Carries – 5-0**

“Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the provisions of Policy and Regulations of the Board of Education which was adopted in accordance with §121.11 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Procedures Act.”

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**Diane Farmer, President**

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**Stephanie Hagenbush, Treasurer**